



redfin shiner

Notropis umbratilis

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata - vertebrates
Class:	Osteichthyes
Family:	Cypriniformes
Order:	Cyprinidae

Features

The redfin shiner is flattened side to side. It is bluish-silvery on the back and silvery on the sides with a white belly. There is a black spot at the base of the dorsal fin near the front. The mouth is at the tip of the snout. Spawning males turn bright steel blue on the back, their fins get reddish, and they develop tubercles (bumps) on their heads. Like other native minnows, it has no scales on the head and the soft dorsal fin has fewer than 10 rays. Adults reach three inches long.

Natural History

The redfin shiner is found in streams with vegetation, which are somewhat rare. It spawns from spring through mid-summer and may use sunfish nests to deposit its eggs. Adults are found in groups near the surface.

Habitat

interior rivers and streams

Iowa Status

uncommon; native

Iowa Range

northeast Iowa and Ringgold, Decatur, Wayne, and Appanoose Counties

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.